The aforesaid quantity of the 29,923 tonnes has now been lifted by F.C.I, from the ports.

(c) STC and MMTC are fully cooperating and coordinating at present in the lifting of imported sugar stocks from the ports.

(d) The entire quantity of impor-ed sugar relating to STC unloaded at the ports till yet has been lifted by the Food Corporation of India.

(e) and (f) The present policy of licensing, including the option of delicensing, is being examined in all aspects.

Import of Sugar

585. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A PARMAR :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the shorfall in sugar production this year was first perceived and the need for import of sugar assessed ;

(b) if so, the steps for import of sugar which were intiated by STC and MMTC;

(c) whether the delay in procure ment of sugar from international market, was used by sugar cartels to corner sugar and import it through private channels, which resulted in loss to Government agencies, having been forced to pruchase it from abroad at rates so boosted; if, the total estimated loss incurred on this account;

(d) whether withdrawal of FCI orders for imports of sugar also re-sulted in any loss; and

(f) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For augmenting supplies to the Public Distribution System STC and MMTC were directed to import sugar. So far these public sector unds takcings have fiaaued contracts for import of about 9.34 lakh tonnes sugar. Out of this, about 0.84 lakh tonnes hat already arrived at Indian shores.

(c) According to the Cornmsroe Ministry, the prices at which STC and MMTC have importe sugar are in line with the import prices of the other Indian import *a*

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not acise.

Import of sugar

586. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether imported sugar has been exempted from regulatory mea-sures relating to stock holding limits and transportation to ensure its free flow to consumers and its availability on reasonable and competitive rates:

(b) whether import of raw sugar has also been placed under open general licence; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of sugar imported this year so far through Government agenies and private avenues, separa tely; and

(d) what steps have been taken to prevent exploitation of the relaxation* of regulations by vested interest*?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Government have exempted imported sugar from stock holding limits and turnover period restrictions in order to ensure its adequate availability to the consumers'at a reasonable price.

(b) Government have allowed import of raw sugar also under open General licence (OGL), which after reprocessing would help to augment the spply of sugar in the domestic market.

(c) As per available information upto 25-7-1994, the imports have been as follows:—

	Total quantity arrived at ports/border
(i) STC/MMTC	70,034 tonnes
(11) Private Parties	6.24.611 tonnet

(d) The Government is not aware of any, misuse of the relaxations of regulations by any party.

Copyright Piracy

587. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to explore the possibilities of constituting copyright enforcement cells to check piracy:

(b) if so, whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued to the State Governments;

(c) what are the number of cases of violation of the Copy-right Act which came to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(d) what action has been contemplated by Government in each case; and

(e) to what extent the copyright enforcement ceils would check-piracy ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION & DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) For checking infringemsnts of Copyright Act, the Governmnt of India had suggested to the State Governments certain measures, including setting up of Special Copyright Enforcement Cells in larger towns to in vestigate copy right offences.

(c) and (d) According to information furnished by National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs, cases of violation of Copyright Act reported from different States/ Union Territories in 1991 and 1992 were 854 and 1167 respectively. The data for 1993 is not yet available. Necessary action in this regard is taken by the respective State Governments.

(e) The proposed Copyright Enforcement Cells are expected to be quite useful in checking piracy.

Child Prostitutes In India

588. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a UNICEF report according to which there are 3,00,000 child prostitutes in India;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to eliminate this evil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.